7 August 2000
English
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**Committee on Conferences**
**Substantive session of 2000**

## Draft report

### Addendum

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Peter **Van De Velde** (Belgium)

# I. Calendar of conferences and meetings

## B. Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2001

### Introduction and overview

1. At its 429th meeting, on 7 August 2000, the Committee on Conferences reviewed the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2001 (A/AC.172/2000/CRP.1 and Add.1).

2. The Committee also heard an oral report on the subject from the representative of the Secretariat.

### Discussion

3. Concern was expressed at the hardship imposed on small delegations when important meetings were scheduled close to each other with little time for delegates to rest and prepare for the meeting of the next body. The representative of the Secretariat acknowledged that various constraints during 2000 had necessitated the scheduling of sessions of related intergovernmental bodies close to each other. Every effort would be made in the year ahead to avoid the recurrence of such situations through better coordination and more careful advance planning.

4. Clarification was sought and received from the Secretariat regarding, inter alia, the meetings of various organs of the United Nations for 2001.

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**Conclusions and recommendations**

**5. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it:**

**(a) Adopt the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2001, taking into account the various observations of the Committee;**

**(b) Authorize the Committee to make adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2001 that might become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.**

**6. The Committee noted with satisfaction that, in drafting of the revised 2001 calendar of conferences, the Secretariat had taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolution 54/248, section A, paragraph 6, with regard to Id al-Adha, which falls on 5 March 2001, and Id al-Fitr, which falls on 16 December 2001 (to be observed on 17 December), and section A, paragraph 7, of the same resolution, concerning Orthodox Good Friday, which falls on 13 April 2001.**

**7. The Committee recommended that, when planning the calendar of conferences and meetings, every effort should be made to avoid simultaneous peak periods at the various duty stations and welcomed the efforts that were being made to promote more effective coordination with a view to achieving that objective.**

**8. The Committee requested the Secretariat to avoid scheduling meetings of intergovernmental bodies, such as the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Fifth Committee, too closely to each other.**